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May 22, 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Colby

SUBJECT: USIB Support

25X1A 1. You suggested that the USIB Secretariat and possibly other support functions should be organizationally a part of D/DCI/IC responsibilities. In fact, [REDACTED] is working through me now and I believe nothing formal need be done until we have made our report to you on alternative USIB committee structures. We are pulling together the work on this subject and should be able to report in a week or two.

2. It may be useful to you to know a little of how we are going about our study of committees. In order to prepare at least one option, we have tried to ask, in a fundamental way, what USIB is supposed to do and how to organize to do that. The President's directive of 1971 states that:

"USIB will advise and assist the DCI with respect to the production of national intelligence requirements and priorities, the supervision of the dissemination and security of intelligence material, and the protection of sources and methods."

3. The matter of requirements and priorities deserves special attention. We can view the process as follows:

NSC through NSCIC states intelligence needs in terms of policy objectives and evaluates the product;

DCI with USIB optimizes the allocation of existing intelligence assets to meet these needs, implements this optimization through statements of requirements and priorities for collection, processing, analysis and production, which also involves the assignment of responsibilities and the evaluation of performance;

DCI with IRAC determines the resource allocation appropriate to the effort defined by USIB and projects resource needs to future years.

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4. Thus USIB should be supported in a way which best allows it to advise on the optimum strategy of employing community capabilities to meet intelligence needs. The emphasis should be on the best utilization of capabilities to solve intelligence problems wherever those capabilities exist organizationally or whatever techniques are used. Therefore a support structure emphasizing the substantive problems to be solved may be best. A set of committees with geographical area assignments would permit a match with the way problem statements are given and could moreover have the advantage of being a focus for action groups in time of intense interest with the committee chairmen as the DCI's focal point for NSC staff interaction.

5. We are working out an option with this notion. It appears to be feasible and would serve to engage USIB actively and responsibly in the very important aspect of their charter to which they now pay little attention.

(Signed) Lew Allen

Lew Allen, Jr.
D/DCI/IC

IC:LA:dm

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① - IC subject (filed "USIB")

1 - IC chrono

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